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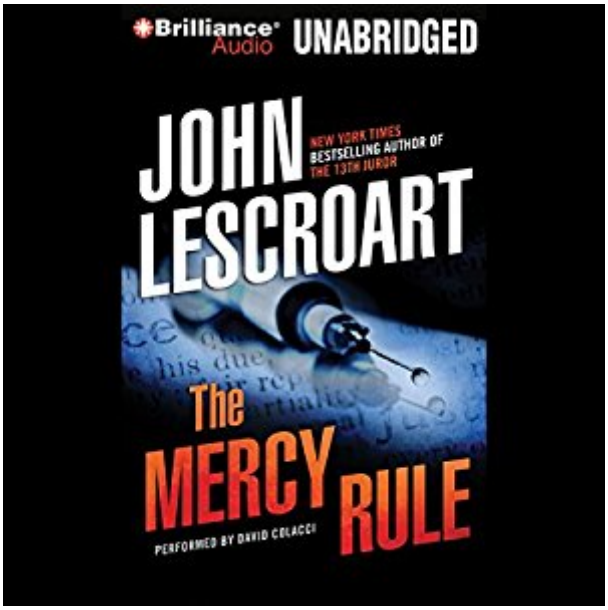
The Mercy Rule: Dismas Hardy, Book 5



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Synopsis

The Mercy Rule is a brilliant and moving human drama set against a backdrop of relentless suspense, legal complexity and moral ambiguity. Dismas Hardy, the former bartender, loving husband and father, and reluctant defense attorney of The 13th Juror, returns here in his most challenging case. Vowing to spend more time with his family, Dismas is hesitant to represent Graham Russo, a could-have-been-great baseball player-turned-lawyer who is indicted for the murder of his father, Sal. Everyone close to the Russos knew that Sal was dying and that he needed morphine injections to ease his suffering. Graham admits to administering these injections, but insists he wasn't there the night of Sal's overdose. Was it suicide, mercy, or murder? --This text refers to an out of print or unavailable edition of this title.

Book Information

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Customer Reviews

I love this author's writing! I experience it as intelligent with wonderful vocabulary (I've even learned a new word or two, which I really enjoy), commplex & believable characters, excellent plots, humor and satisfying endings. I am a voracious reader so I'm truly delighted to have discovered this author last year. I don't usually enjoy murder and mayhem (hence the reason I've not read his work before) but Lescroart doesn't overdo the violence. It's there and you're told what happened but its bearable... and the sex is, well, sexy....subtle, sublime. I have a difficult time finding novels that don't seem to insult the reader's intelligence in their "simplicity". Not so with Lescroart. He offers us the hearts, thoughts and motivations of his characters inviting the reader to step into each one's shoes. Although some of Lescroart's books are a bit better than the others, I know I'm always "in for a good

read" when I pick one up. I so appreciate this author and the many hours of "the joy of reading" he has provided me with thus far!

This review has more to do with the series than specifically with The Mercy Rule. Working my way through the Dismas Hardy novels. Unlike many current detective writers, Lescroart eschews the charismatic psychotic serial killer and his/her elaborate, shocking crimes - burned, hanged, flayed, dismembered, et al. - and offers rather average folks - cops, secretaries, lawyers, etc. - caught up in difficult and unusual circumstances but trying to deal with the challenges of everyday life - work, family, friends.His characters' reflections on these challenges are simple, poignant, thoughtful evocations of the issues that we all face, and Lescroart does a superb job of coalescing the vapors, giving voice to our ruminations and fears.His work reminds me of the writing of James Gould Cozzens who won a Pulitzer Prize and was considered for the Nobel Prize. Writing during the middle decades of the 20th century, Cozzens was attacked by critics for being hopelessly out of date. His heroes are quite ordinary men, living quite ordinary lives and find themselves in the midst of a crisis that tests their moral and ethical beliefs. Like Cozzens' characters, Lescroart's heroes stand near us, offering the opportunity to reflect on our own lives.The plots have the requisite twists and turns and tensions to keep them moving briskly, but it is the thoughts and feelings of the characters that lift these books well above the general run of detective/thriller/mystery novels. The layers build as the series progresses so stay the course and enjoy the books - it's definitely worth it.

I enjoy reading about Dismas Hardy and Abe Glitsky. I like the little bit of humor between all the seriousness of getting the clients off from jail. I have enjoyed all Lescroart's books where these two men play a major role and the description of their personal lifes between all the stress of the workplace and the politics thereof, makes it interesting to read.

Just discovered Lescroart a couple years ago. Thought I had read all the books with Dismas Hardy and Abe Glitzsky but I had overlooked this one. It was as good a read as all the others. Wish I had discovered this author years ago, but at least I've been able to buy the books used at a good price.Going to place this author up there with the big boys (Grisham, Baldacci, Lee Child, Vince Flynn) for any new books that come out.

Author likes to join action with some social issues, but it is not agressive and even makes story bette, Very well described hero. Nice reading if you do not need many corpses.

good book.

I’ve never met a Lescroart book I didn’t like, so this review goes for all of them....er, except the very early ones (Sunburn, and I’ve forgotten the other...), but that gives one hope for all aspiring authors. I especially like the Dismas Hardy books and look forward to the next...and the next...

These are some of the best written suspense novels I have ever read.

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